[redacted]

23 August 1954

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief, Contact Division

ATTENTION : [redacted]

FROM : Chief, [redacted]

SUBJECT : Case [redacted]

REFERENCE : Headquarters Memorandum dated 18 August 1954, same subject.

1. We are sending to you under separate cover this date two packages, one containing Peganum harmala L., and the other containing seeds and dried whole specimens of Peganum Mexicanum. We did not obtain Stipa Vaseyi (Sleepy Grass) because of a misinterpretation of your requirements. Your teletype WA-8937 delaying action on this case indicated new requirements instead of additional requirements would be mailed. We, therefore, assumed that the two specimens obtained replaced the request for sleepy grass. We discussed this matter, however, with our contact when we picked up the specimens in [redacted] this weekend. He stated that sleepy grass grows in abundance and will be no problem to collect. Since he returns to [redacted] from a tour of [redacted] on 30 August, we will discuss this matter with him in [redacted] this week, and also request that he try to obtain more seeds of Peganum harmala L. and Peganum Mexicanum. Please let us have some suggestion as to how much additional seed we should collect at this time.

2. Along this same line our contact stated that some years ago he did a small amount of research on growing conditions of Peganum harmala L. with the object of determining what could be done to retard the spread of this particular plant. He stated that it is believed the plant was introduced to the area during World War I, at which time foreign hay was shipped to this area and the seeds were believed to have been carried by this hay. As a result of these experiments, he would be able to help us with suggestions if future efforts are made to cultivate this plant.

3. We have taken steps to determine whether or not [redacted] still resides at [redacted] If we are able to locate him, we will make an appointment to discuss the matters brought up in paragraph three of your memorandum of 18 August.

4. We will keep you posted on the progress of this case. It is possible that it will be some time during the first of September before we obtain the additional requirements.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE 1 JUN 1978

[redacted]

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